

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: American Red Cross of Alaska****Project Title:**

American Red Cross of Alaska - Service to Armed Forces Program

State Funding Requested: \$ 125,000**House District: Statewide (1-40)**

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Continue providing services to the armed forces and their families in Alaska.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$125,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Capital line item funding will allow the Service to Armed Forces, or SAF, division of the American Red Cross of Alaska to continue their services to members of the armed forces and their families. The SAF program provides critical communication channels and programs serving the Alaskans and their families that sacrifice to serve our country.

Project Timeline:

Funding is for FY 09

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

American Red Cross of Alaska

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Michelle Houlihan, CEO

Phone Number: 907-646-5414

Address: American Red Cross of Alaska, 235 East 8th Ave, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501

Email:

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☐ Yes ☒ No



December 11, 2007

Representative Kevin Meyer
716 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 610
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Representative Meyer,

This letter is to follow up regarding our conversation on November 20 about our Service to Armed Forces program; formally known as Armed Forces Emergency Services or AFES. Your continued support of this vital program that serves armed services members throughout the state is greatly appreciated. The funding received this fiscal year through the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development has allowed our two Service Stations to remain open and actively providing essential services to military members and their families. As we discussed the increased demand on our programs continues and shows the necessity for the continuation of the **Service to Armed Forces program; or SAF**. Your continued support in securing funding will enable us to provide these supportive services to military personnel in Alaska.

Each month our Station Managers brief hundreds of service members and their families on the programs available to them through the American Red Cross. Programs, such as our Emergency Communications Service, enable deployed soldiers to be in contact with their families in times of need or in times of joy as a new child enters the world. In the first two quarters of this year we have sent over 1300 such communications. The demand on these services continues to grow as more units are deployed and our commitment to having twenty-four hour a day access to our programs remains. In addition, we provide assistance to service members who may need to return home, helping to reach their family in their most personal times of crisis.

Capital line item funding for SAF at \$125,000 will enable to us to continue working with all branches of the military in Alaska. As more units deploy for overseas assignments and local National Guard members are called to duty we will continue to see an increasing demand on our services. This funding will allow us to keep staff on hand in our local offices during regular work hours and allow for after hours staff to assist service members and their families when the need arises, no matter what time of night or day it may come.

I look forward to working with you on securing this funding and will be in Juneau during the next legislative session. If you are in need of any additional information for this capital request please do not hesitate to contact me at 646-5414 or email me at houlihanm@usa.redcross.org. Thank you again for your continued support of our programs and most importantly for supporting our military personnel who ensure our freedoms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Houlihan".

Michelle Houlihan
Chief Executive Officer